

Remarks

This is in response to the Office Action dated February 22, 2005 and subsequent to the interview the examiner held with the undersigned on May 17, 2005.

Appreciation is hereby expressed to the examiner for the courtesy he extended to the undersigned during the interview.

The pending claims 1, 4-6 and 8-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Jenkins et al. (USP 3,985,133).

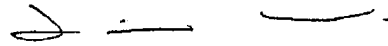
Pursuant to the interview, the independent claims now pending each have been amended to point out that the time intervals between the pulses that are sensed are compared against a minimum time that may be preset to different values. The basis for such amendment is provided in the first full paragraph on page 2, the first paragraph on page 3 and the full paragraph on page 5.

The amendment is believed to make it more clear that the instant invention is time based, and may be time variable, as contrast to Jenkins et al. (USP 3,985,133), which discloses a brute force method of stopping the motor when the number of pulses counted by the counter-divider 420 (Fig. 11) of the motor stall detector circuit (K component in Fig. 7) reaches a high state, when it is not reset due to the lack of actual motion of the shaft of motor 84 (column 18, lines 10-31). Given that the motor stall detector circuit K (Figs. 7 and 11) is a pulse driven circuit, i.e., a digital circuit (column 9, line 58 to column 10, line 6), it is not time based. This is clear insofar as counter divider 420 would go to the high state and thereby power down the pump, if it does not receive the reset signal because the shaft of the motor fails to rotate. On the other hand, for the instant invention, the time that elapses for the rotational speed of the motor is compared with a minimum time that may be varied; and so long as the measured elapsed time for the motor speed is greater than

the preset minimum time, then the next elapsed time for the motor speed is measured and the process repeats itself.

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are patentably distinguishable over the prior art. Accordingly, the examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the application and pass the case to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



Louis Woo, RN 31,730
Law Offices of Louis Woo
717 North Fayette Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 299-4090

Date: May 20, 2005